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The Treasurer is under bond for \$10,000 as per order of the Executive Committee. The bond is in the custody of the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

This committee desire to express their appreciation of the co-operation they have received from the Secretary, the Assistant to the Secretary, the Treasurer and Editor, and other officials of the Association. Harmony has reigned in all of our activities.

GEORGE A. JOHNSON,  
• *Chairman.*

J. WALDO SMITH,  
FRANK A. BARBOUR,  
*Finance Committee.*

#### REPORT OF THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

It is customary for the Publication Committee to make a report or verbal statement annually to the Association. Your Committee is accordingly submitting its views on its work during the current year and its opinions regarding further work of this character.

Owing to war time conditions, little was done during the last year in developing the activities of Sections. At the St. Louis convention a large part of the papers presented there were turned over to the special committee appointed to consider the cold weather problems of the water departments. These two facts left your Committee with less than half the number of papers usually available for publication in the JOURNAL. Some of the most interesting papers were withdrawn by the authors for one reason or another. It became necessary, therefore, to secure material from other than the usual sources, or to give up the publication of one or more numbers of the JOURNAL.

Rather than abandon the program of publication an attempt was made to secure contributions from the members of the Association. For several months the response to your Committee's efforts was practically nil, but since the beginning of the current year there has been a slowly increasing interest in the work of the Committee, and it is now our belief that the members will eventually become helpful coöperators with the Committee if the Association decides to continue the recent policy of attempting to publish a JOURNAL containing original papers as well as those presented before the annual convention and at Section meetings.

The question to be settled by a man asked to join the Association is this: Is it worth \$5 a year to receive the JOURNAL, to have the privilege of attending the annual convention and in some cases the meetings of the Sections, and to contribute toward the expenses of committees investigating problems which may or may not be of interest to him? To the average water works man the JOURNAL is the only substantial return and it is not now worth \$5 a year to him.

The main reason why the JOURNAL is not worth \$5 is that the cream of the information published in it is published in trade papers before the Association prints it. The trade papers condense the papers presented to the Association so that their elaboration is avoided and the needs of the average readers are met to a considerable extent. When these papers by our members are printed by the Association they have been robbed of their novelty. It has been repeatedly suggested that the papers should be withheld from publication until they have been printed by the Association. This is an undesirable policy, for a purpose of the Association is to disseminate information of value to those engaged in water supply and the trade press is a most valuable means to this end. The logical deduction from the facts is that the Association should either publish only the papers presented before the annual convention and the Sections in a single annual volume, or it should publish the JOURNAL more often and make it a magazine of first-hand information as well as the place of final publication for the convention and Section papers.

In considering the comparative advantages of these two courses, most weight should be given to the relative importance of three things the Association has to offer a man asked to join its ranks. The increase in membership due to the opportunities for social intercourse has been urged for a good many years without any material increase in our roll call. Although this is an advantage appreciated by many of the present members, it is apparently unattractive to persons not already members. The usefulness of joining the Association in order to assist to the extent of \$5 annually in committee work of an indefinite nature is difficult to make apparent. The last Publication Committee called attention to certain useful extensions of committee work, but war conditions made it inadvisable to attempt them heretofore. It is believed that the new officers of the Association should give attention to the recommendations in that report, for the development of closer relations between the members, which was their object, is absolutely essential to arouse the Association from its lethargic condition.

The most attractive advantage of membership which the Association can offer is a JOURNAL which contains a considerable amount of original information, appears more often than the present JOURNAL and is not sold to anybody at less than the annual dues of a member, except to newsdealers and booksellers who will charge their customers full price. This JOURNAL would not be an engineering magazine, of which there are now enough in existence, but a water-works magazine covering all branches of water works affairs. The lack of interest of some of the members in the JOURNAL six months ago made this seem an impossible project at that time, but interest has developed and the plan seems worth trying for one year, provided the members will agree to two essentials: first, to provide adequate funds, at least \$7500 for a magazine appearing every second month, and, second, to agree to support the Publication Committee in its policy of editing the papers.

The handling of some of the papers presented at Section meetings and the annual conventions is a problem of many difficulties. The trade papers condense the best of these papers and print them practically as soon as read. Probably three-fourths of the members are satisfied with the amount of information presented in these abstracts. The information left out in preparing the abstracts may be anywhere from one-fourth to three-fourths of the entire papers and usually consists of tables and illustrations expensive to print. Sometimes the author repeats the same information in text, tables and illustrations, something never permitted in a well-edited magazine. Occasionally the author even insists upon rearranging large masses of tabulated figures several times, so as to show different relations between them, apparently unconscious of the fact that when they have been given once to show certain relations every intelligent reader is willing to admit that the author is competent to rearrange them in a different way without error and to accept his word that when so arranged the sums of the various columns are the quantities he states.

The cost of publishing the JOURNAL has increased one-third during the past fiscal year. The opportunities to reduce the unit costs of publishing during the next twelve months are slim, but none which present themselves will be passed without careful investigation. To print six numbers instead of four in a year and to print a considerable amount of original matter as well as the convention and Section papers, the Publication Committee must have the same

control editorially over the papers that is exercised by the editor of a trade journal. This control is granted by the Association's Constitution, but a few members question it and there should be no uncertainty on this point. It is necessary in order to handle the financial problems of publication adequately. There should be no increased charges for advertising in six numbers annually over that for advertising in four numbers, until the Association and the JOURNAL show greater influence. There is no better advertising medium for pipe, pumps, pumping station equipment, water purification equipment and a great variety of supplies, but this fact will become more apparent when the Association and its JOURNAL show more clearly by continuous effort that they are distinctly useful. Until that demonstration is made there are no grounds for expecting the advertising revenue which the JOURNAL will have when it has been thoroughly established.

CARLETON E. DAVIS,  
*Chairman,*  
WILLIAM W. BRUSH,  
ALLEN W. CUDDEBACK,  
GEORGE A. JOHNSON,  
JOHN M. GOODSELL,  
*Editor.*

#### REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The following number of applications for membership in the American Water Works Association were received and passed by the present Membership Committee during the year ending March 31, 1919: Active, 57; Corporate, 6; Associate, 6; Total, 69.

Fifteen Active members and two Associate members were passed by the preceding committee. The total number of new members elected during the fiscal year was therefore as follows: Active, 72; Corporate, 6; Associate, 8; or a total of 86.

The Membership Committee recognizes the fact that the war has undoubtedly been the cause of many active members resigning from the Association and has also deterred others from joining. It may be of interest to note here the variation in the membership of the Association during the past five years as shown in the published reports of the Secretary. These reports, however, cover the period from September, 1913, to September, 1918, only.